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These are perilous times for the armament conference in Washington.

The arms conference in Washington has the earmarks of a continued story appearing in a weekly publication; and the similarity is such that there is hope that the thing can be worked out to a satisfactory conclusion as most story writers manage to finish up their literary effusions.

Vermont newspaper people, as well as many others in Vermont, will join in extending felicitations to Walter E. Hubbard, formerly of Brattleboro, for taking unto himself a wife and over his new newspaper venture in acquiring the Gardner, Mass., News after having sold his interests in the Beverly Times.

Fate plays some queer pranks. In Passaic, N. J., a motorist knocked down and injured an elderly man; the police got on the case and pursued an automobile, whose driver was suspected of being the one who ran down the elderly pedestrian; the driver of the the pursued car "stepped on the gas" and in a wild flight ran down and killed two young boys and then crashed into a telegraph pole, demolishing his machine but, strangely enough, not injuring the fugitive driver to an extent considered worth chronicling in the news dispatches of the trail of tragedy. That the driver of the motor vehicle escaped injury was the queer turn of fate.

Apparent disposition on the part of the government, or government officials to coddle Debs, released from the federal penitentiary, is a mistake. Let Debs take his place with the remainder of the inhabitants of the United States and let him abide by the laws of the country, or suffer the consequences. Any attempt to influence his course would be misinterpreted by Debs, would convey to him some mis-

taken idea of his own prominence in the scheme of things in the United States. Let Debs stand on his own.

CURRENT COMMENT

Something of a longing for the old pencil and pastepot is to be read between the lines of President Harding's birthday message to Martin L. Eller, 77, the eldest employee of Harding's newspaper, the Marion Star, when he wrote that there is "even more happiness in some of our sombre pursuits than there is in assuming responsibility in high places." Whether Harding would surrender the presidency right now to return to the editorship of the Marion newspaper is, perhaps, to be doubted; but it is certain that the glamor of high office (if ever there was such) has been thoroughly erased from his mind.

Regardless of what may be the undercurrent of opinion in Ireland regarding the ratification of the Anglo-Irish treaty, it is very evident that the press agent work almost entirely inclines to the ratification by the Dail Eireann. However, in most cases of like nature it is found on the showdown that one side or the other gets the best exploitation in the press, so that the opposite side's real strength is not revealed. It is likely to prove, therefore, that De Valera's side is not really so weak as the press agent reports would indicate, albeit ratification may be made in conformity with Arthur Griffith's wishes.

A railroad dividend stands forth like a big thing in a world of depression just at the present time; so the action of the directors of the Little Woodstock R. R. company, here in Vermont, in declaring a two per cent dividend out of the net earnings of the company for 1921 constitutes a really important development. President Richard Billings of the company asserts that the dividend was made possible because of the absence of business depression in the region served by the railroad and because of the efficient work of the officers and the employees of the company. That was, indeed a happy combination of conditions—a rare combination, one might say.

GROWING TREES CALLED "CURSE"

Our esteemed contemporary, the Barre Times, is alarmed at the "annual slaughter" of the babies of our forests for decorative purposes and warns that Vermont "is bound to find itself well-nigh stripped of soft wood by another generation." The Christmas tree dealers of Ludlow tell us to the contrary. The farmers are very glad of the opportunity to sell the quite useless spruce, that has within a few years grown to large magnitude. In fact farmers would even give the tree to the dealers without compensation and would draw them to the shipping point or out of the woods. The increased demand has, however, permitted the farmer to realize something upon his scrub forest that has grown unutilized in his pasture land, changing what he thought was a curse to a blessing.—Ludlow Tribune.

VERMONT IN THE NEXT WAR.

Vermonters have been given a pretty clear indication of what will be expected of them in the event of another war. Major Amory, whose duty it is to get the organized reserve started in this state recently stated that our share of the reserve will be the 388th infantry, 22nd engineers, 97 divisional quartermaster train, the 97th signal and a part of the 316th cavalry regiment.

It is to be remembered that the land forces of the United States are to be based on an army composed of three component parts, viz., the regulars, the National Guard and the Organized Reserve. In the scheme of things one is as important as the other. The reserve is to be composed during peace time of trained men and officers sufficient in number to form a nucleus for rapid expansion in time of war.

This is the first time that the country has had anything like a definite military policy. But, now, it is mostly on paper. Therefore, so far as the reserves are concerned, Major Amory pleads that veterans of the World war come in and furnish the required quota of officers. This is necessary, he declares, until the colleges and the training camps have graduated enough men to fill offices.

The arrangement seems to take care of one unsatisfactory development in the recent war. Whereas the Vermonters were scattered from one end of the army to the other from 1917-19, the new plan contemplates the grouping of Vermont troops in the units named above so that the state will make a distinctive military effort. This would be most pleasing to Vermonters and is one of the reasons why the plan for an organized reserve should make an appeal to Vermont military men.—St. Albans Messenger.

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You have often wished for money at Christmas time, haven't you?

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By joining our Christmas Club now. Under this plan you deposit a specified sum regularly for 50 weeks. You then have the money next Christmas.

There is a Club to suit you.

Join to-day.



MONEY EARNERS

Join our Christmas Club and have money next Christmas.

We offer you this systematic plan of accumulating money for any future purpose.

Now, while your earnings are good, deposit some money regularly each week.

Decide on the amount you wish to deposit each week and JOIN NOW.

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1c Club	Deposit 1c 1st week, 2c 2nd week, increase 1c each week—in 50 weeks	\$ 12.75
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10c Club	Deposit 10c 1st week, 20c 2nd week, increase 10c each week—in 50 weeks	127.50

Even Amount Club Plan

25c Club	Deposit 25c each week—in 50 weeks	\$ 12.50
50c Club	Deposit 50c each week—in 50 weeks	25.00
\$1 Club	Deposit \$1 each week—in 50 weeks	50.00
\$2 Club	Deposit \$2 each week—in 50 weeks	100.00

Even Amount Club Plan

\$5 Club	Deposit \$5 each week—in 50 weeks	\$ 250.00
\$10 Club	Deposit \$10 each week—in 50 weeks	500.00
\$20 Club	Deposit \$20 each week—in 50 weeks	1,000.00
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You can begin with the largest amount and Decrease each week

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Join today.

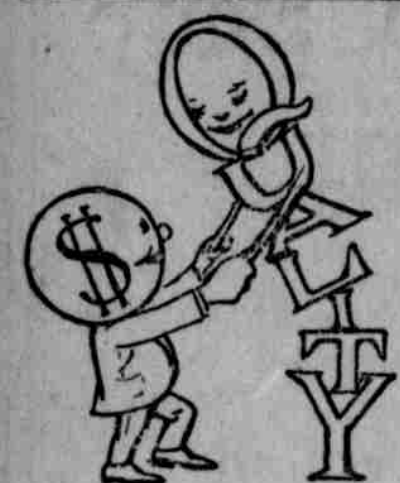
Christmas Plan—The Best Plan

No better plan has ever been devised for systematically depositing money than our Christmas Club. It gives old and young, the wage earner and the business man a definite plan for accumulating money for Christmas needs, or for other purposes, such as Taxes, Insurance, or for profitable investment, every business man knows "Ready Money" is a very useful thing to have.

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And the price is lower than the quality—

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Lower
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Suits and overcoats at \$40 that would have been \$60 a year ago.

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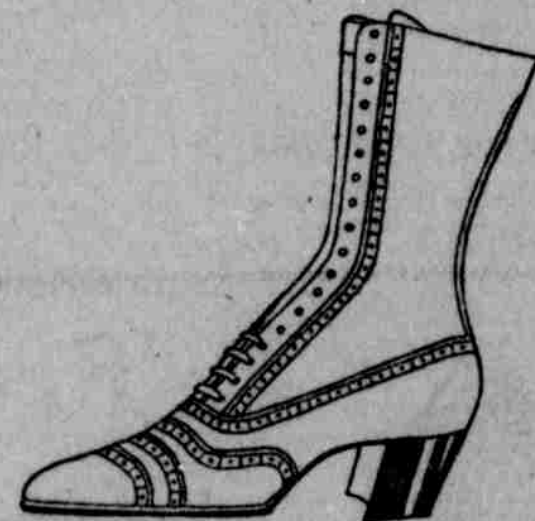
Overcoats \$15.00 to \$47.50.

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What just fellow?

F. H. Rogers & Company



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